

Ranger Update

Operations Division, Project Resources Management Branch

April 2015

Volume 5, Issue 4



**US Army Corps
of Engineers®**
Vicksburg District

In This Issue:

- Enid Lake Habitat Day 2015
Pages 1—3
- 2015 Grenada Lake Wounded
Warrior Deer and Wild Hog
Hunt
Pages 4—6
- Enid Lake Volunteers for
Waste Management “Clean
Up Day”
Pages 7—9
- Upcoming Events for
May 2015
Pages 10—11

Enid Lake Habitat Day 2015

One hundred fifty volunteers attended Enid Lake’s 24th Annual Habitat Day held Saturday, February 7. Habitat Day was kicked off with a sausage and biscuit breakfast; instructions were presented from Enid Lake resource manager Billy Samuels gave instructions and an overview of the event. The potential safety hazards were given by supervisory ranger Michael Robinson and natural resources specialist Vance Austin.

During the event volunteers used ATV’s to drag cedar trees to strategic locations throughout the lake bottom at Billy’s and Mooney Creeks. The trees were anchored with concrete weights. Volunteers also placed wooden stake beds along creek channels and grassy knolls. Volunteers placed 1,000 cedar trees and 2,000 wooden stakes on the feature-less mudflats of Enid Lake. Approximately 350 cedar tree shelters were constructed.

According to studies performed by Mississippi Department of Wildlife, Fisheries, and Park’s biologist, these shelters are showing enormous benefits to both habitat and fishing in the lake. Shelters such as these attract small baitfish, which in turn attract larger fish such as crappie and largemouth bass. After a morning of work, volunteers were treated



**US Army Corps
of Engineers**®
Vicksburg District

**Operations Division, Project
Resources Management
Branch**

CEMVK-OD-MN
4155 Clay Street
Vicksburg, Mississippi
39183-3435

Tel: 601-631-5311
Fax: 601-631-7133
E-mail:
Lawran.B.Richter@usace.army.mil

**OUR CORPS RANGERS:
RELEVANT, READY,
RESPONSIVE, AND
RELIABLE**

<http://www.mvk.usace.army.mil/>

LEARN MORE ABOUT CORPS
PROJECTS AT:
<http://corpslakes.usace.army.mil>

Enid Lake Habitat Day 2015 (cont'd.)

to a fantastic lunch, awarding of door prizes, and a chance to win a 10 foot aluminum boat donated by Top Dog Power Sports of Greenwood, Mississippi and Performance Marine in Sardis, Mississippi.

Volunteers joined personnel from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and RBS Contractor as one team and, through hard work, helped restore the much needed fish habitat. Through Natural Resource Management Projects such as this, we not only restore fish habitat for today, but help sustain a healthy fish population for many years to come.



Volunteers prepare cedar trees to be hooked to ATV's.

Enid Lake Habitat Day 2015 (cont'd.)

Volunteers use ATV's to drag cedar trees to strategic areas to construct fish shelters during Enid Lake Habitat Day.



Volunteers construct fish shelters using cedar trees and wooden stakes.

Photos by Vance Austin and Chris Hannaford

Article By: Chris Hannaford
Natural Resources Specialist
Enid Lake Field Office
Enid, Mississippi

2015 Grenada Lake Wounded Warrior Deer and Wild Hog Hunt

The Grenada Lake Field Office hosted its annual Wounded Warrior Deer and Wild Hog Hunt held January 12—14. This special hunt allow us to manage our deer herds, cut back on the number of invasive wild hogs, and at the same time give our wounded warriors a great hunting opportunity. Seven wounded warriors hailing from the states of Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, and Mississippi converged on Grenada Lake in hopes of bagging white-tail deer and wild hogs. Grenada Lake personnel provided the hunting opportunities at the 900-acre Grenada Waterfowl Refuge, which also served as the headquarters for the event, along with the 1,200 acre Haserway Wetland Management Area located just below the Grenada Dam.



Pictured above: Sunday Afternoon Briefing from left to right: Jeff Arnold , Little Rock , AR, Mike Peterson, Ocean Springs, MS, Natural Resources Specialist, Jonathan Johnsey, Stephen Phleming, Pensacola, FL, Damon Blakely, GIS Program Manager, and Joe Caley, Augusta, GA.

2015 Grenada Lake Wounded Warrior Deer and Wild Hog Hunt (cont'd.)

On the brisk afternoon of Sunday, January 11, 2015, the wounded warriors arrived at Grenada Lake and met with members of the Grenada Lake Field Office for a briefing on the upcoming hunt. GIS Program Manager, Damon Blakely, provided aerial photos of the proposed hunting areas along with updated hunting information. That same evening, the Christian Motorcycle Association provided a barbecue dinner including pulled pork, ribs, pork and beans, slaw, as well as dessert, to top off a perfect meal. The Wounded Warriors really enjoyed the food and fellowship provided by the Christian Motorcycle Association.

Right:
Members of the club take advantage of the time to feast, congregate and fellowship with the warriors.



The hunt turned out to be a tremendous success with all seven wounded warriors harvesting at least one deer and several were able to harvest wild hogs. A total of 14 deer were harvested as well as six wild hogs. Several nice bucks were also taken during the wounded warrior hunt. A giant wild hog weighing 375 + pounds was taken at the Grenada Waterfowl Refuge.

2015 Grenada Lake Wounded Warrior Deer and Wild Hog Hunt (cont'd.)



Left, Stephen Phleming poses alongside a doe harvested on the first afternoon of action.

Right: Tim Bell proudly displays his giant 375+ pound trophy.



The Wounded Warrior Project serves veterans and service members who incurred a physical or mental injury, illness, or wound, co-incident to their military service on or after September 11th 2001. Grenada Lake Field Office thoroughly enjoyed the opportunity to provide this unique program for our nation's heroes.



Left: From left to right: Butch Tinnon, Joe Caley, Mike Paterson, Natural Resources Specialist Kevin Coleman, Mark Moody, Jeff Arnold, and Stephen Phleming.

Article By: Kevin Coleman
Park Ranger
Grenada Lake Field Office
Grenada, Mississippi

Enid Lake Volunteers for Waste Management

“Clean Up Day”

The Enid Lake Volunteers for Waste Management and Enid Lake’s staff conducted their 12th Annual Enid Lake Clean Up Day on Saturday, March 7, 2015. Volunteers met at designated areas around the lake and were instructed on the day’s activities and potential safety hazards by the Enid Lake ranger staff.

During the event, Corps team members and RBS Contractors teamed up with approximately 100 volunteers with one purpose — to pick up trash. A total of 20 compacted cubic yards of trash and six tires were picked up along Enid Lake’s roadways and shoreline. The morning’s clean up was followed by a delicious lunch prepared by volunteers. A raffle was held and door prizes were given.



Volunteers pick up trash along access roads leading to Enid Lake recreation areas.

Enid Lake Volunteers for Waste Management “Clean Up Day” (cont’d.)

Natural resource management projects such as this not only enhance Enid Lake’s beauty, but also promote Natural Resources Stewardship to surrounding lake communities as well as visitors who frequent Enid Lake. This volunteer effort contributes greatly to support one of the missions of the Corps, which is implementing Environmental Operating Principles to preserve and enhance the environment for future generations.

Over the past 12 years, this event has removed more than 833 compacted cubic yards of trash and debris, and 709 tires from Enid Lake’s roadways and shoreline. Since this Clean Up Day began, more than 2,339 volunteers have contributed services to the Corps valued at approximately \$269,866.00, and making environmental stewardship a way of life around Enid Lake.



Left: Volunteers line up for a delicious lunch prepared by Enid Lake volunteers during Enid Lake’s Clean Up Day.

Enid Lake Volunteers for Waste Management “Clean Up Day” (cont’d.)



Trash removed during clean up day.

Photos by Jackie Ferrell and Chris Hannaford.

Article By: Chris Hannaford
Natural Resources Specialist
Enid lake Field Office
Enid, Mississippi

Upcoming Public Events May 2015

Mississippi

Arkabutla Lake

16—22 MAY—National Safe Boating Week Activities, Project Wide

Enid Lake

06 MAY—Water Safety Awareness Day, Hickory Ridge

16—22 MAY—National Safe Boating Week Activities, Project Wide

22– 24 MAY—Southern Traditional Archery Tournament, Persimmon Hill

Sardis Lake

09 MAY—Magnolia Crappie Tournament, Engineer Point

16—22 MAY—National Safe Boating Week Activities, Project Wide

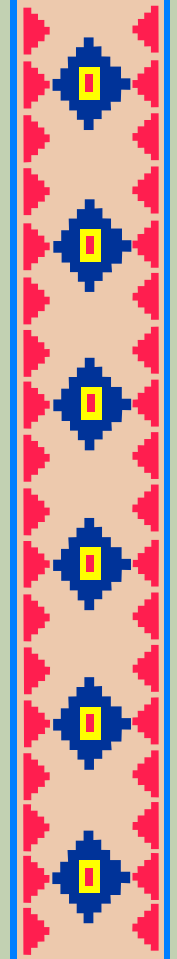
24 MAY—St. Jude's Bass Classic, Engineers Point

Grenada Lake

02 MAY—Duathlon, Dam Area Central

16—22 MAY—National Safe Boating Week Activities, Project Wide

23 MAY—Josh Anderson Memorial Shoot, Piney Woods



Upcoming Public Events (cont.) May 2015

Arkansas

DeGray Lake

02—03 MAY—Off Road Triathlon, Iron Mountain Trail System

16 MAY—Arkansas Team Bass Trail, Spillway

16—22 MAY—National Safe Boating Week Activities, Project Wide

29—30 MAY—Fire Boat School, Spillway

Lake Greeson

16—22 MAY—National Safe Boating Week Activities, Project Wide

Lake Ouachita

09 MAY—9th Annual Perry Kilby Fishing Tournament, Joplin

16—22 MAY—National Safe Boating Week Activities, Project Wide

Louisiana

Louisiana Field Office

16—22 MAY—National Safe Boating Week Activities, Project Wide

Bayou Bodcau

No events scheduled.

J. Bennett Johnston Waterway

08—09 MAY—10th Annual Water Resources Festival

